

~~SECRET//NC/CIA-IUO/ORCON/NOFORN//MR~~

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~~(S//NC/CIA-IUO/OC/NF)~~ SUBJ: COLONEL SIGIFREDO OCHOA PEREZ' INTENTION TO REQUEST RELIEF OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BENJAMIN RAMOS FOR "POLITICAL MISCONDUCT"

Central Intelligence Agency

15 January 1985

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COUNTRY: EL SALVADOR

SUBJ: COLONEL SIGIFREDO OCHOA PEREZ' INTENTION TO REQUEST RELIEF OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL BENJAMIN RAMOS FOR "POLITICAL MISCONDUCT"

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TEXT: 1. [REDACTED] FOURTH BRIGADE COMMANDER, COLONEL SIGIFREDO ((OCHOA)) PEREZ, STATED THAT HE INTENDS TO REQUEST OF CHIEF OF THE JOINT GENERAL STAFF, GENERAL ADOLFO ONECIFERO ((BLANDON)) THAT THE FIRST MILITARY DETACHMENT COMMANDER, LIEUTENANT COLONEL BENJAMIN ((RAMOS)), BE AND. COLONEL OCHOA SAID THAT LT. COL. RAMOS IS TOO INVOLVED IN POLITICS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC). COLONEL OCHOA HAS RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM SOME FIRST MILITARY DETACHMENT OFFICERS THAT RAMOS TRIES TO INFLUENCE OFFICERS IN HIS COMMAND TO SUPPORT PDC POLITICS AND POLICIES.

[REDACTED] COMMENT: THE FIRST MILITARY DETACHMENT IS SUBORDINATE TO OCHOA'S FOURTH BRIGADE. PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS

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FIRST MILITARY DETACHMENT COMMANDER, RAMOS SERVED AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE FOURTH BRIGADE UNDER COLONEL OCHOA.)

2. OCHOA STATED THAT ANOTHER REASON HE BELIEVES THAT RAMOS IS TOO INVOLVED WITH THE PDC IS THAT RECENTLY RAMOS INVITED FIRST BRIGADE COMMANDER, COLONEL JULIO AGUSTIN ((TRUJILLO)) QUEZADA, LIEUTENANT COLONEL JULIO CESAR ((YANEZ)) LOPEZ AND OCHOA TO DINNER AT THE RAMOS RESIDENCE. ALL THREE COMMANDERS WERE SURPRISED ON ARRIVING TO FIND THAT PRESIDENT JOSE NAPOLEON ((DUARTE)) AND OTHER PDC OFFICIALS ALSO WERE ATTENDING. OCHOA SAID HE FELT THAT THE DINNER WAS ARRANGED TO SUBJECT OCHOA TO THE INFLUENCE OF DUARTE AND/OR THE PDC. OCHOA STATED THAT IN HIS ROLE AS A MILITARY OFFICER HE SHOULD REMAIN "APOLITICAL."

3. COLONEL OCHOA CONCEDED THAT THE PDC MAY TRY TO PROTECT LT. COL. RAMON IN THE LATTER'S CURRENT POSITION. IF THIS OCCURS, COLONEL OCHOA INTENDS TO INSIST THAT RAMOS SHOULD NOT HAVE BECOME INVOLVED WITH THE PDC AND SHOULD BE RELIEVED OF COMMAND FOR MISCONDUCT.

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